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DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

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Date: 03 FEB 1978 By: ALG

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Support)

SUBJECT : OTR Position Regarding CIA Task Forces

REFERENCE : Memorandum for all Area Divisions; Dated
12 June 1958; Subject: CIA Task Forces;
Prepared by Chief, P & P Staff, DD/P

1. NSC 5412/2 establishes the Cold War operational missions for the Central Intelligence Agency. The requirement for maintaining a capability to take effective covert action in any Cold War emergency is an inherent factor in each mission. The referenced paper suggests one means by which CIA can meet cold war contingencies.

2. The basic objections of this Office to the PP Staff memorandum are based on the fact that it does not adequately reflect the Agency's past experience, and it does not go far enough in presenting the major problems of establishing a task force capability. It appears that a policy determination is required which would clearly identify the importance of such activity in terms of the DD/P missions. This step is a prerequisite to planning for formalized training programs. If the Agency is to establish the capability of providing the field with a composite task force, the Office of Training will be confronted with two significant training requirements:

(a) Responsible representatives of the Agency serving at its outposts must be trained to select the proper course of action to meet Cold War contingencies, and in those cases where the employment of a composite CIA task force is indicated, Agency representatives in the field must be trained to make effective use of the task force in the accomplishment of their mission.

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(b) A carefully tailored formal training program for cadre members is a fundamental requisite to the establishment of a task force capability within CIA.

3. It is the position of the Office of Training that full and complete coordination from the outset between this Office and appropriate elements of the Clandestine Services is essential to the successful development of a composite task force. If the Office of Training is to satisfy the training implications outlined above, it must have sufficient lead time to program the training. This will entail the development of new instructional material, modification of its instructional staff, and in the event a cadre for such a task force is to be maintained in a state of readiness at OTR facilities, additional facilities may be required.

101
MATTHEW BAIRD
Director of Training

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